

# St. Bernard Neighborhood Campus

Fact Sheet | August 2018



## Overview

Major boulevards and neutral grounds in Gentilly will transform into a series of blue and green corridors that reduce flood risk and subsidence while facilitating safe and comfortable spaces to travel and recreate.

A core component of the Gentilly Resilience Strategy is effectively adapting key public assets, including boulevards, parkways/medians, and adjacent park spaces to improve community resilience. By reshaping these City assets into a network of Blue & Green Corridors and Priority Complete Streets, the community can achieve the six benefits below.

The project area includes all of the Pilotland/St. Bernard neighborhood from Harrison Avenue to the north to I-610 to the south and from Bayou St. John to the west and Paris Avenue to the east.

## Issues to be Addressed

**FLOODING** – excess water the drainage system cannot handle

New Orleans receives 60 inches of rainfall per year on average. Flooding occurs during greater rates of rainfall. Our drainage system can handle one inch of rain for the first hour, and one-half inch with each following hour.

**SUBSIDENCE** – sinking of the land caused by dry organic soils

Low-lying areas of New Orleans, such as Gentilly, are former marshlands with organic (highly porous) soils that need water to remain stable. Pumping drains the soils of water, causing them to shrink like a sponge and swell again when it rains. This shrink-swell effect causes differential movement, which damages streets and building foundations.



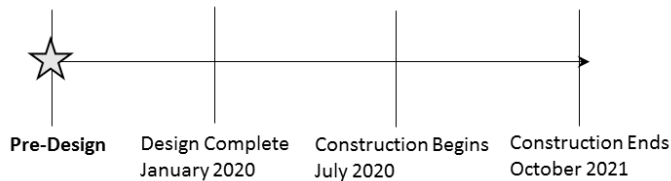
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## Timeline & Funding

The St. Bernard Campus project is implemented with federal funding through the City's award from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC).

The HUD funds to be invested in this project will be used to enhance landscape design and support programmatic features such as educational or recreational amenities that will be developed through further discussion between the City and the community.

### Timeline



## Benefits

- Improve stormwater management and reduce flood risk – examples may include increasing pervious surfaces, bioswales, bioretention areas, and tree plantings
- Create new and enhanced recreational space – examples may include plazas, seating areas, multi-purpose places, and play areas
- Improve access and neighborhood connections to Bayou St. John and City Park – examples may include a plaza and pedestrian enhancements along Milton Drive to connect the Bayou to St. Bernard Ave. and Columbia Park
- Promote environmental and health education opportunities

## Gentilly Resilience District

The Gentilly Resilience District is a combination of efforts across Gentilly to reduce flood risk and slow land subsidence. The city's first Resilience District uses various approaches to water and land management that have been successfully piloted throughout New Orleans. When implemented together, these approaches are intended to beautify neighborhoods, improve health, and provide opportunities for recreation.

## Contact

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